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EASTERN ILLINOIS UNIVERSITY
Charleston, Illinois

news

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FILE COPY

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE:

NEWS TURNS 75

CHARLESTON, IL.--A birthday gala is being planned in honor of the 75th anniversary of Eastern Illinois University's student newspaper.

The public is invited to an open house Monday, Nov. 5, from 9 a.m. to 3 p.m. at the newsroom in the North Gym of Buzzard Building.

Eastern President Stan Rives will participate in a formal cake-cutting ceremony at 12:30 p.m. and throughout the day, student editors of today's Daily Eastern News will greet guests, who are invited to view displays of past News issues.

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In addition, a special 75th anniversary edition of the newspaper, containing an unabridged history, will be distributed Nov. 5.

"I am especially proud of how hard our students have worked over the years at the News. Because of their dedication, the News has developed from a monthly to a daily newspaper," said John David Reed, chair of the Journalism Department.

On Nov. 5, 1915, the first Normal School News was a four-page tabloid with a four-column format. Its basic format has remained unchanged during its 75-year history. Today, however, each issue averages 12 pages.

In its first year, the News had an independent publisher and a subscription rate of \$1. Today it is distributed free to students and the University community.

In 1921, the University (Eastern Illinois State Teachers College then) acquired the newspaper, thus resulting in its name change to Teachers' College News. Three additional names were used until Daily Eastern News was adopted in 1980.

Eastern began offering journalism as a minor in the late 1930s. It became a major field of study in 1975.

The News has had various campus locations, including Old Main, University Union, Concrete Block Building, Pemberton Hall basement, and Student Services Building. It has also ceased publication twice and published four extra editions so far in its 75 years.

For more than a decade, the News has been consistently rated as an "All-American" student newspaper by the Associated Collegiate Press. In 1983, it received ACP's Pacemaker Award, the top award given to a student newspaper nationwide.